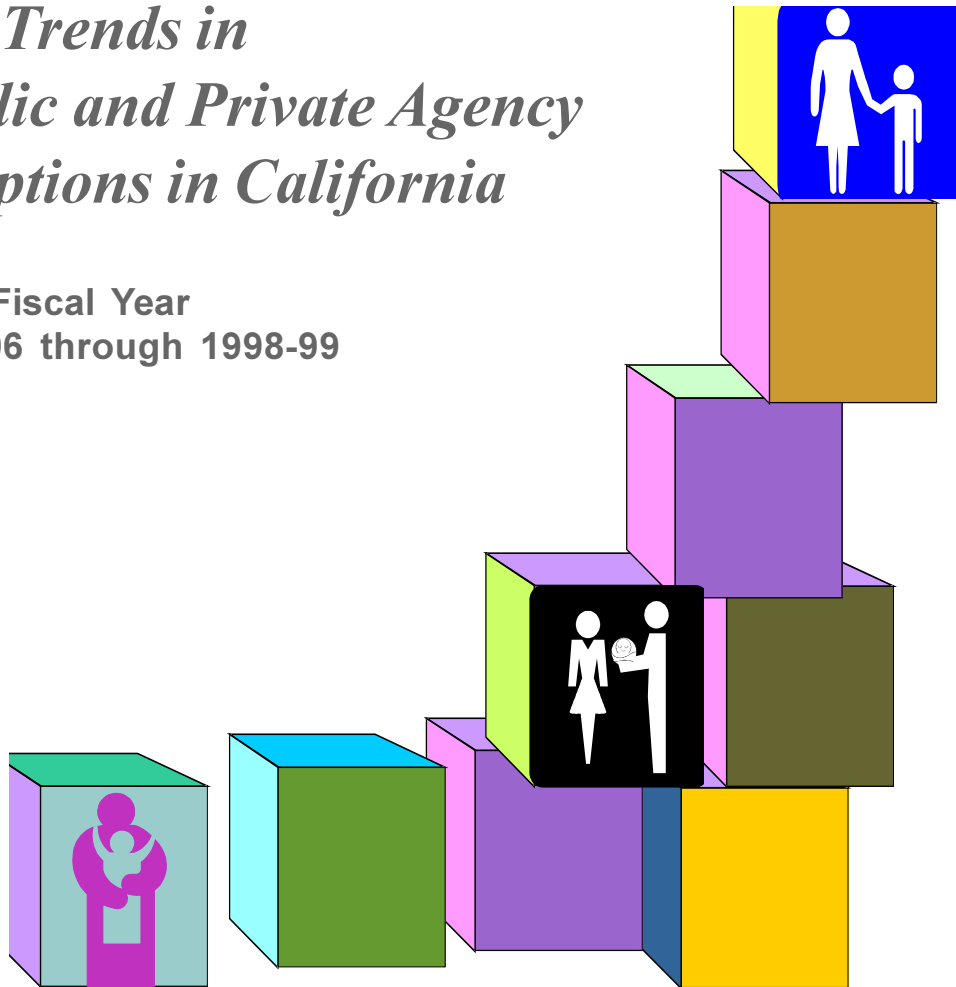


Examining Characteristics and Trends in Public and Private Agency Adoptions in California

State Fiscal Year
1995-96 through 1998-99



California Department of Social Services
Research and Development Division
Data Analysis and Publications Branch June 2000

Background

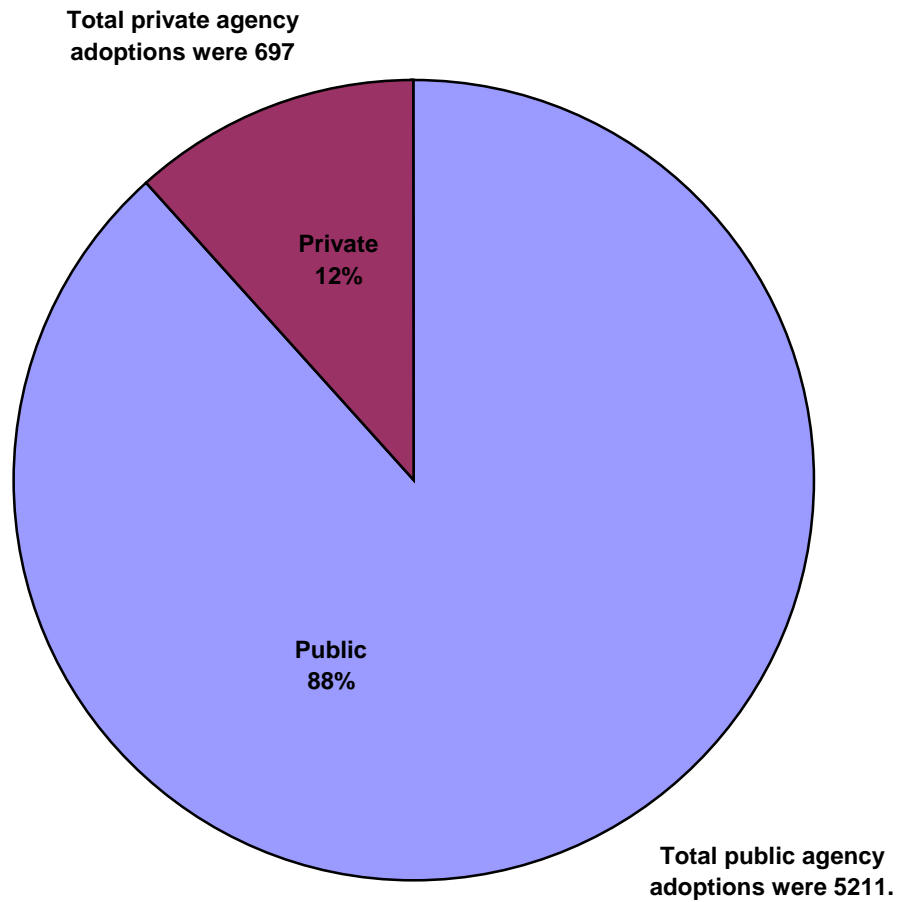
The statistical and characteristics analysis in this publication covers public and private agency adoptions. Most public agency adoptions are of children from the Foster Care program. Most private agency adoptions are of infants whom their parents have relinquished to the agency.

Data for both the public and private agency adoptions is reported by the agencies to the California Department of Social Services, etc. The Agency Adoption Program Report (AD56A) is used for reporting aggregate data and is submitted quarterly. The Agency Adoption Program- Individual Case Reports (AD42R) is case-specific characteristic data submitted on each adoption completed. Data from the AD42R was used to analyze characteristics, while data from the AD56A was used to analyze trends in the total number of adoptions. The numbers from the sources do not match because as of June 2000, about 10% of the AD42R reports had not been submitted.

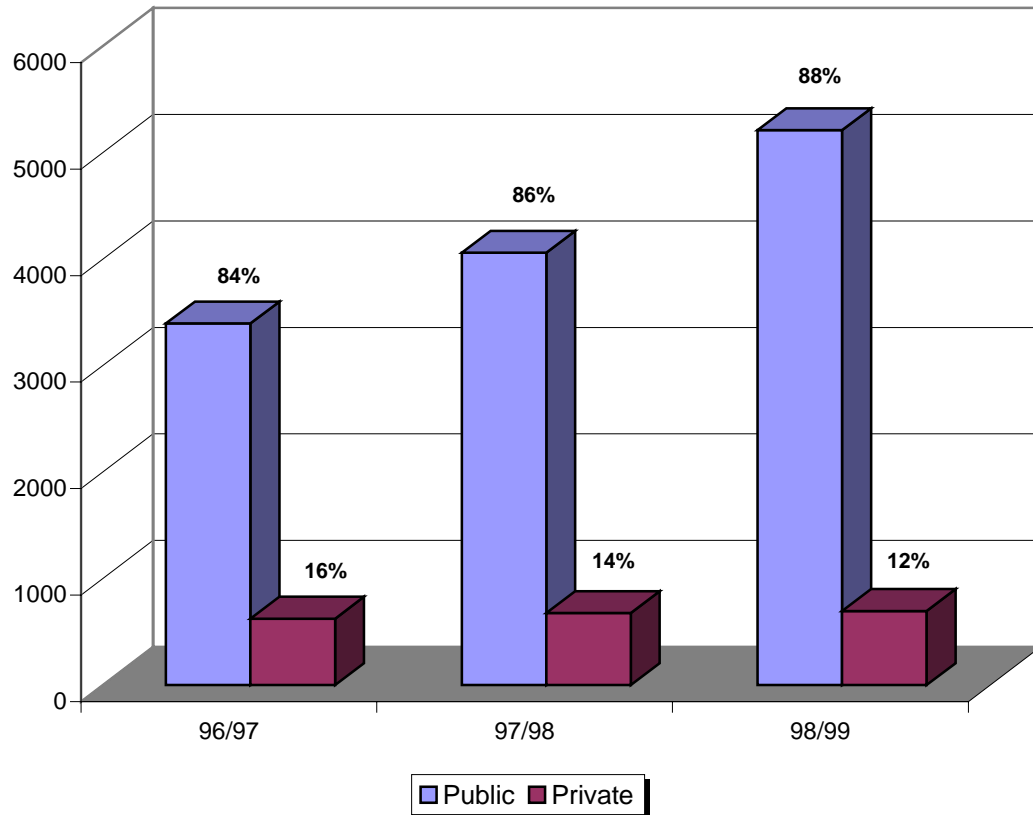
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Public and Private Agency Adoptions for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 1998/99

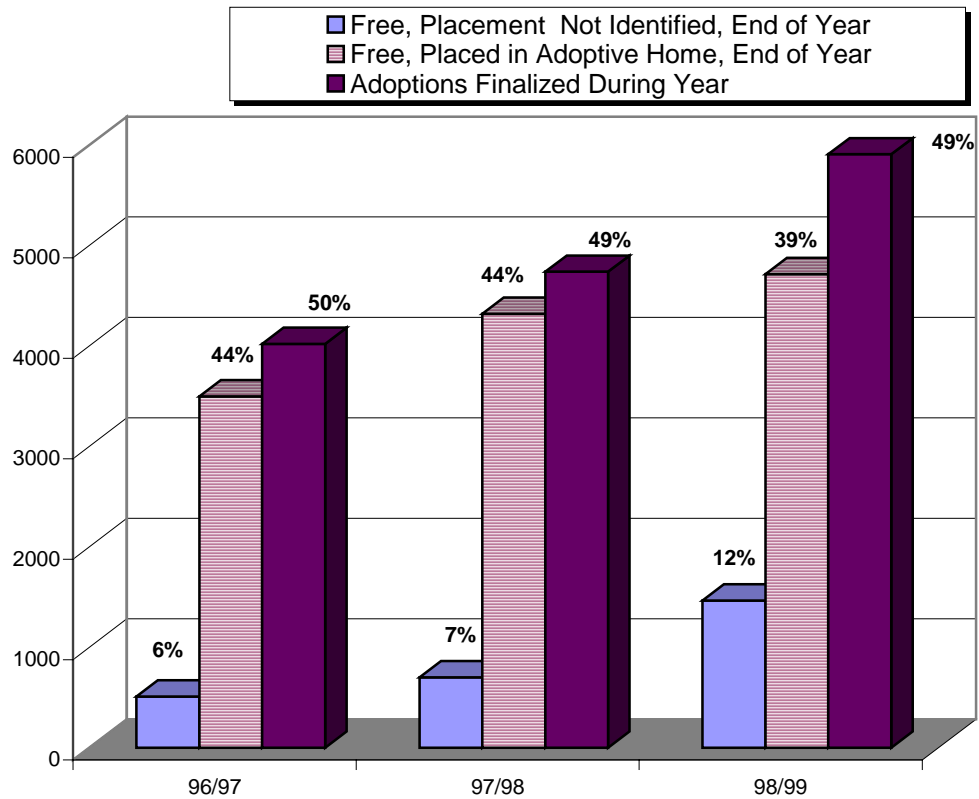


Finalized Public and Private Agency Adoptions



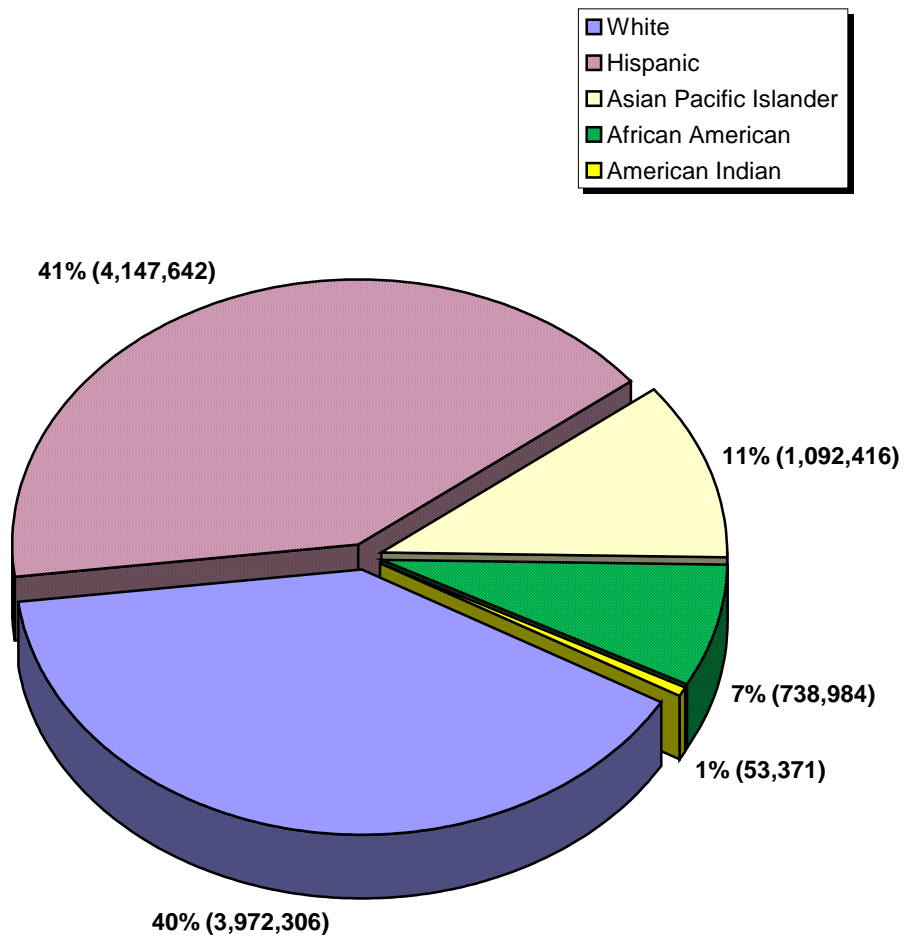
- . Public agency adoptions increased from 3396 in SFY 96/97 to 5211 in SFY 98/99. This is a 53% increase.
- . Private agency adoptions for the same time period increased from 625 to 697.

Children Who Have Been Legally Freed and Placement Has Not Been Identified, or They Have Been Placed in an Adoptive Home and are Either Awaiting Adoption Finalization or the Adoption Has Been Finalized



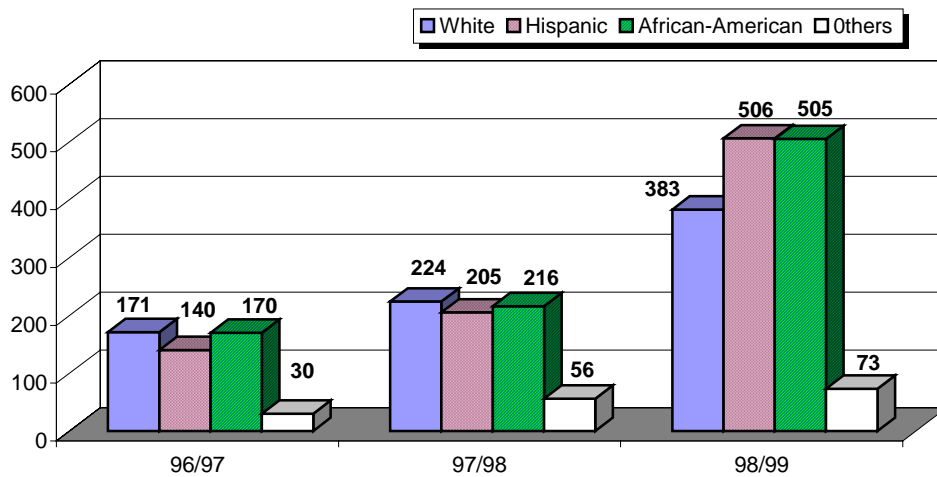
. The numbers of children being legally freed for adoption are increasing and the resulting finalized adoption numbers are also increasing.

California's 0-18 Year old Child Population 1999

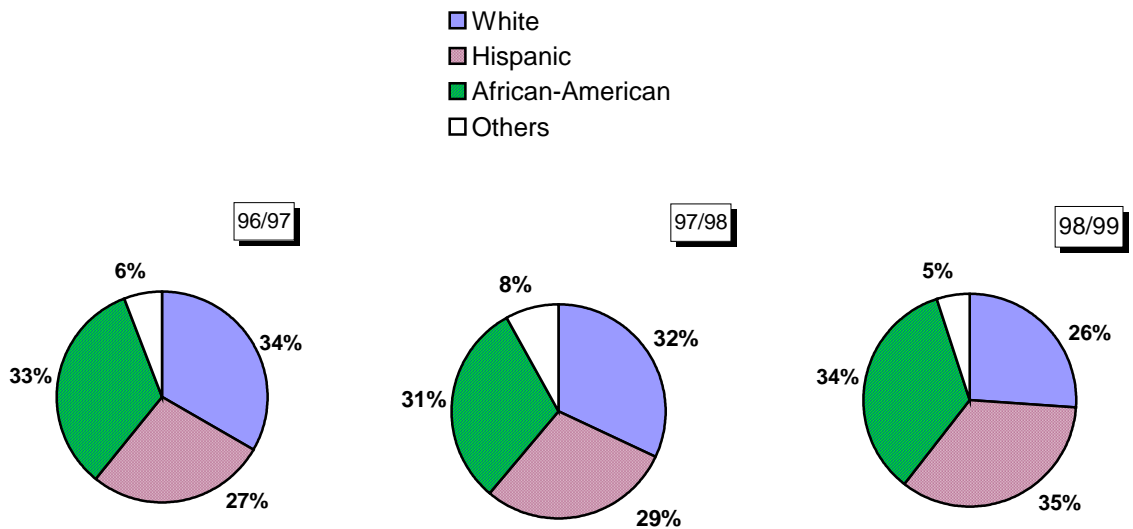


Ethnicity data on California's child population is presented for reference. Population ethnicity statistics are not captured in the same racial/ethnicity groupings as adoptions. It therefore, cannot be compared directly to the finalized adoptions data that follows on the children of the public and private agency adoptions.

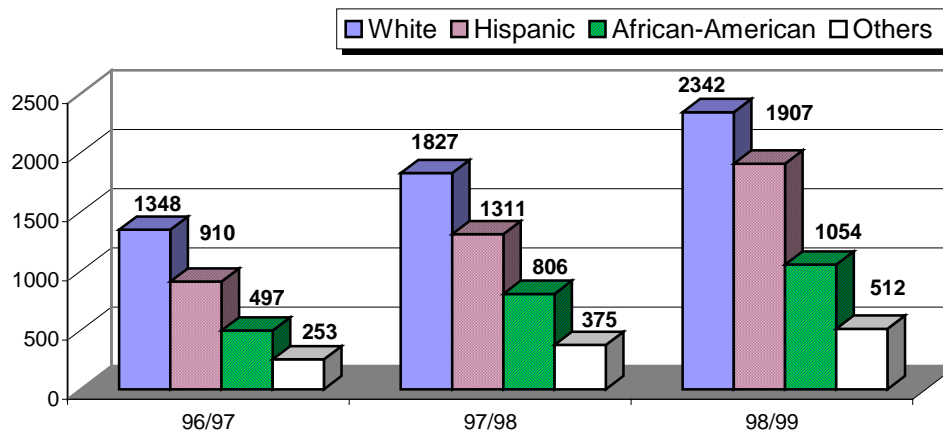
Children Legally Free-Placement Not Identified



- . Children legally free increased from 511 in SFY 1996/97 to 1467 in SFY 1998/99. This was an increase of over 287%.
- . Less than one percent of waiting children are with private agencies.

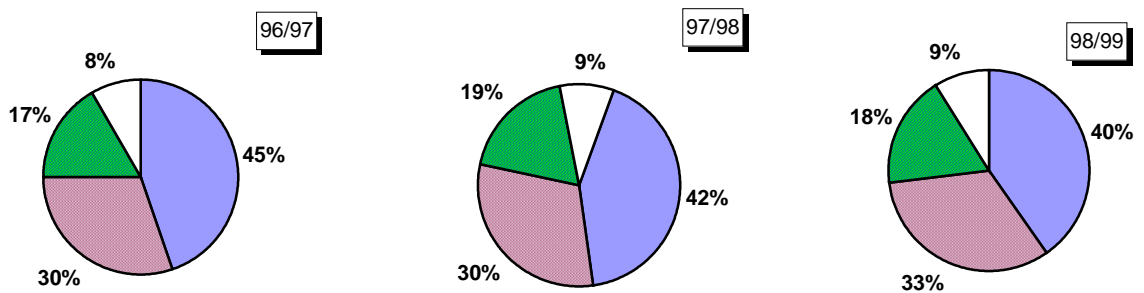


The Race or Ethnicity of Children in Agency Adoptions



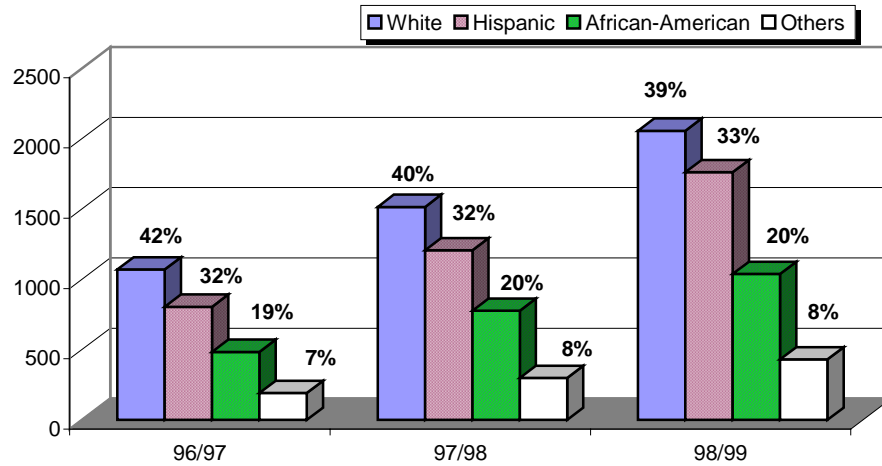
. The highest number of adoptions is of White children. However, finalized adoption numbers increased for all groups.

■ White
 ■ Hispanic
 ■ African-American
 ■ Others



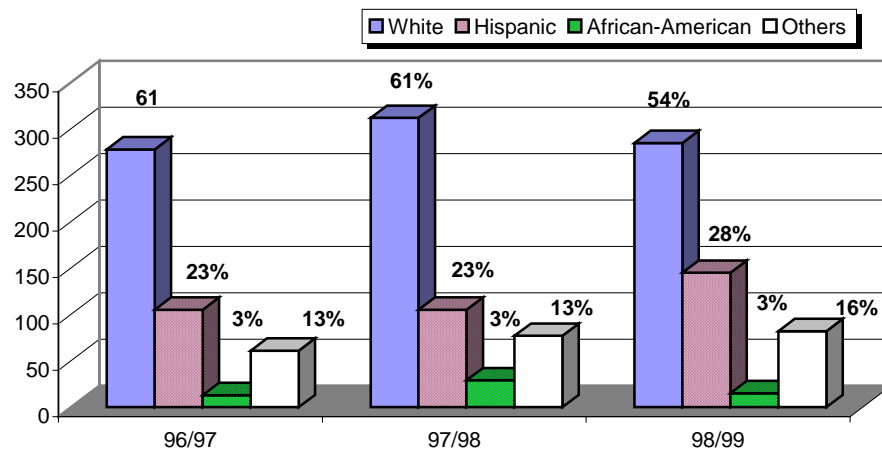
. The percentage of adoptions for Hispanic and African-American children increased while the percentage for White children decreased.
 . There was a one percent change for all Other children.

The Race or Ethnicity of Children in Public Agency Adoptions

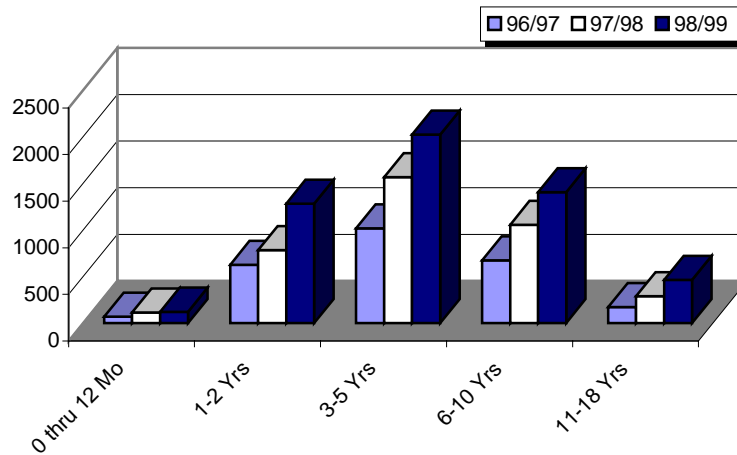


- . Total numbers for public agency adoptions for all racial or ethnicity groups increased.
- . White children comprised 42% of all public agency adoptions for SFY 96/97 and 39% for SFY 98/99, the proportion of Hispanics went from 32% to 33% and African-American children, from 19% to 20%.

Race or Ethnicity of Children in Private Agency Adoptions

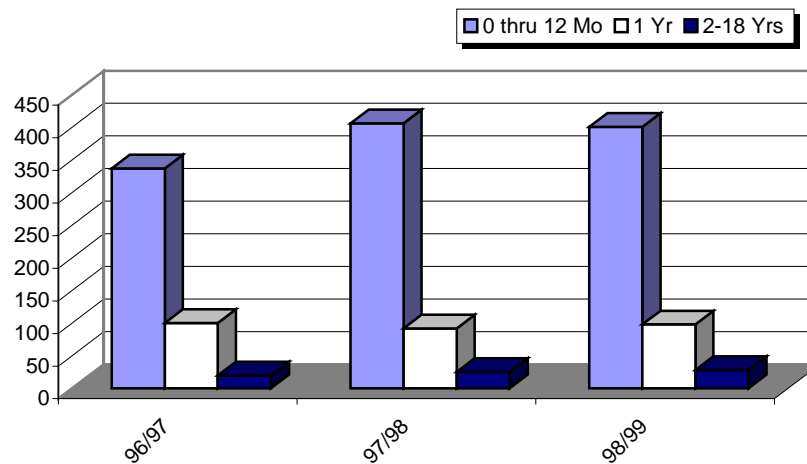


Age of Child When Adoption Finalized in Public Agency Adoptions



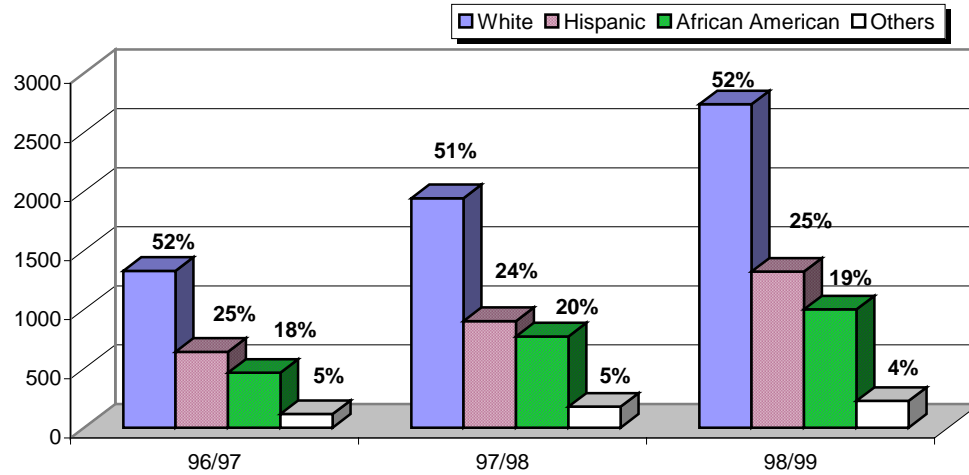
- . The majority of finalized adoptions in the public adoption program are between 3 and 10 years old.
- . The largest number of these children are between the ages of 3 and 5.

Age of Child When Adoption Finalized in Private Agency Adoptions



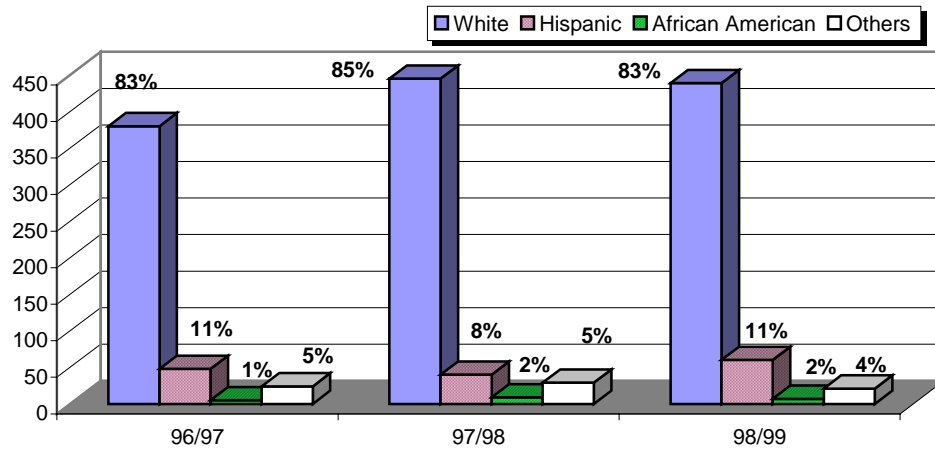
- . Approximately 75% of the children with finalized adoptions by private adoption agencies are under one-year-old.

***Race or Ethnicity of Adopting Parents in Public Agency Adoptions**



. The number of adopting parents has increased for all years and for all race and ethnicity groups.

***Race or Ethnicity of Adopting Parents in Private Agency Adoptions**

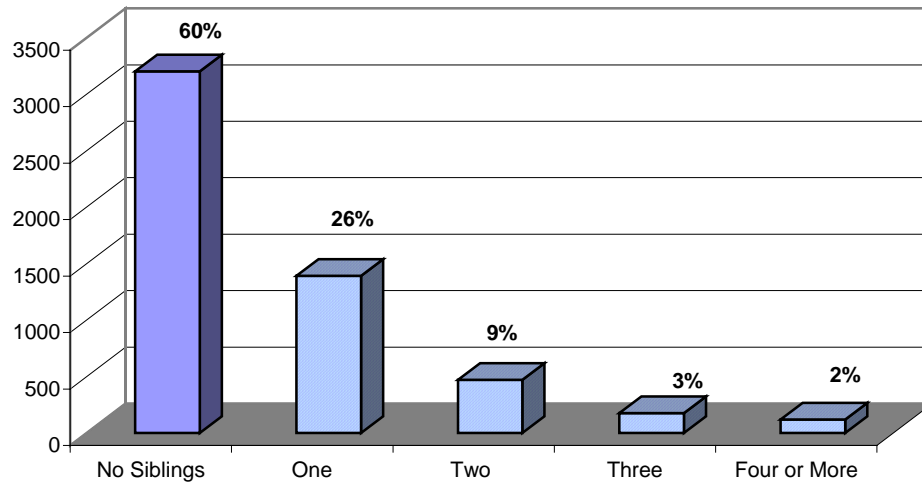


. White parents comprise the largest group in private agency adoptions.

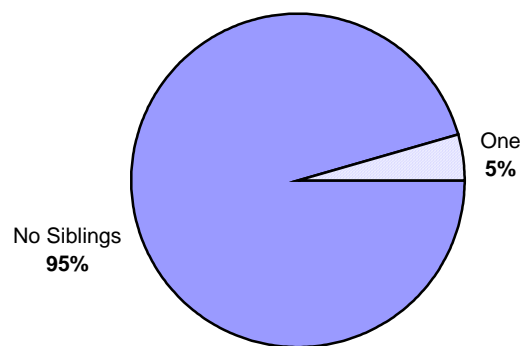
*These statistics represent the number of children with adoptive parents of the stated race or ethnicity.

Source: AD42R.

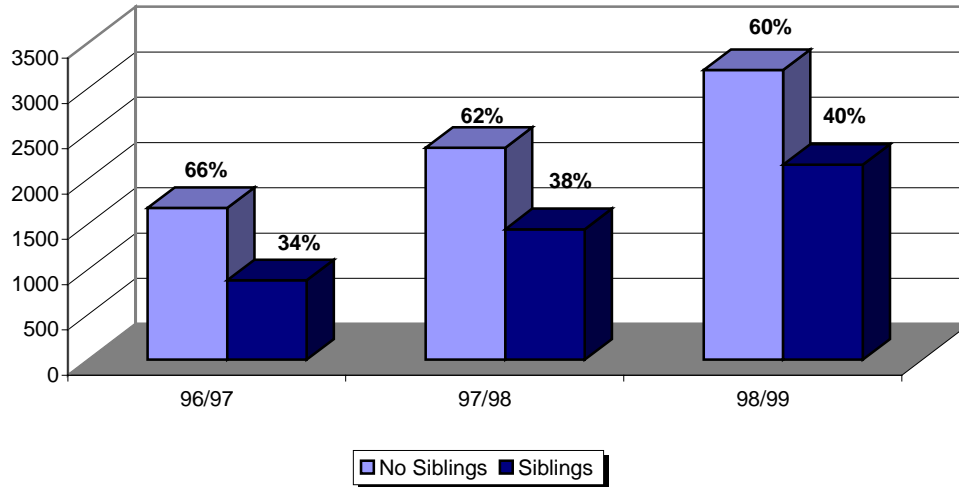
**The Number of Siblings Adopted by a Family in Public
Agency Adoptions for SFY 1998/99**



**The Number of Siblings Adopted by a Family in Private
Agency Adoptions for SFY 1998/99**

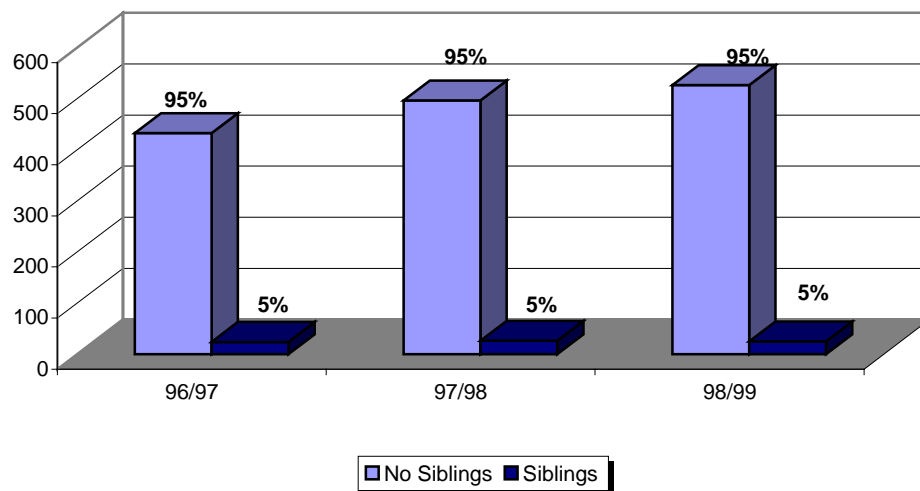


Children Being Adopted with Siblings in Public Agency Adoptions

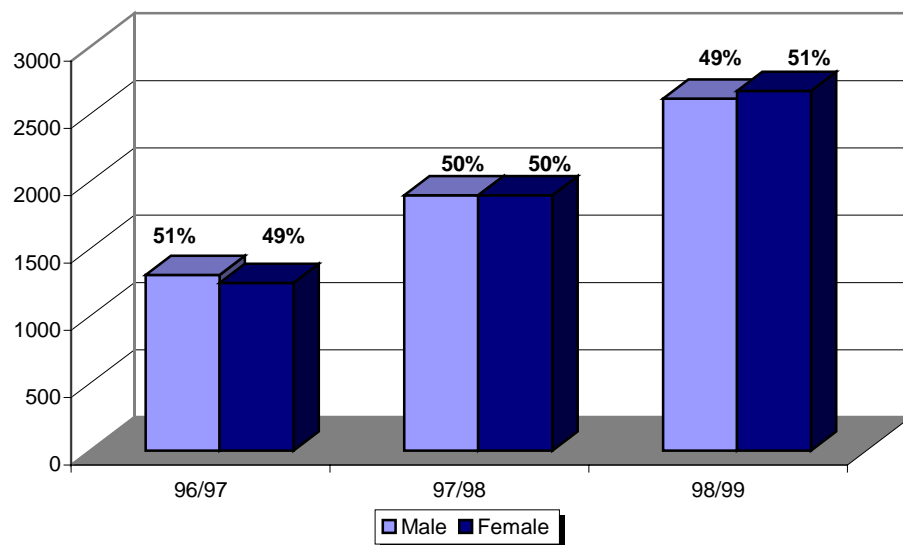


- . The number of public agency adoptions of siblings have increased 362% from SFY 1996/97 to SFY 1998/99.
- . The number of private agency adoptions of siblings is very small. The number increased from 24 to 25 from 96/97 to 98/99.

Children Being Adopted with Siblings in Private Agency Adoptions

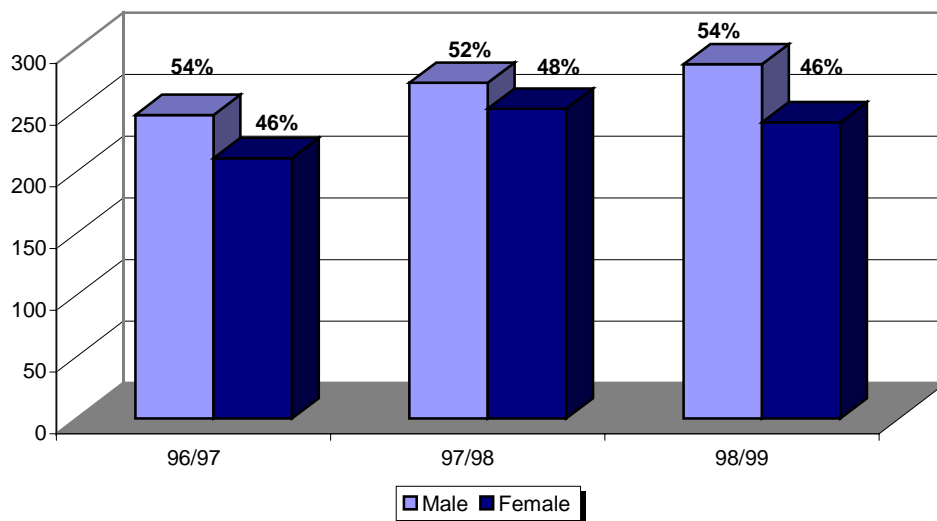


Gender in Public Agency Adoptions

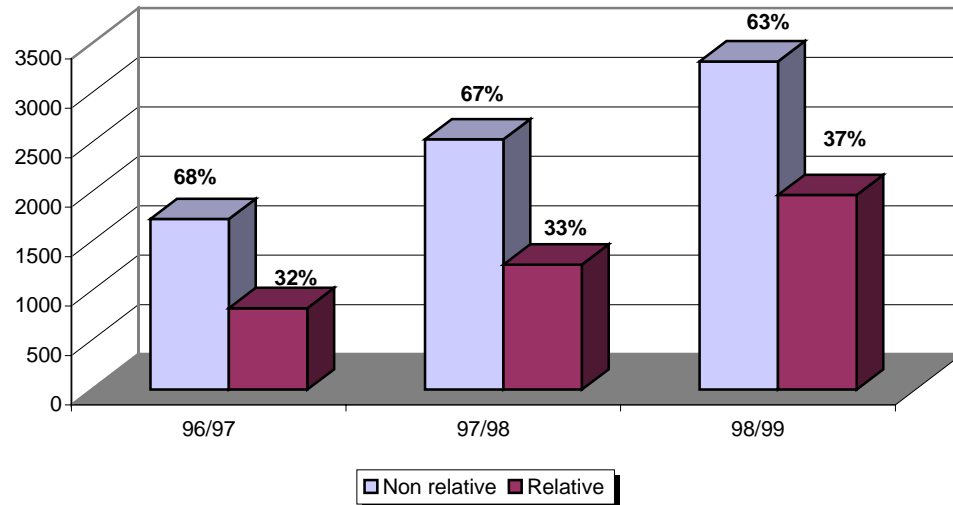


- . The number of male and female public adoptions is about the same.
- . A noticeably higher number of males are adopted in private adoptions.

Gender in Private Agency Adoptions

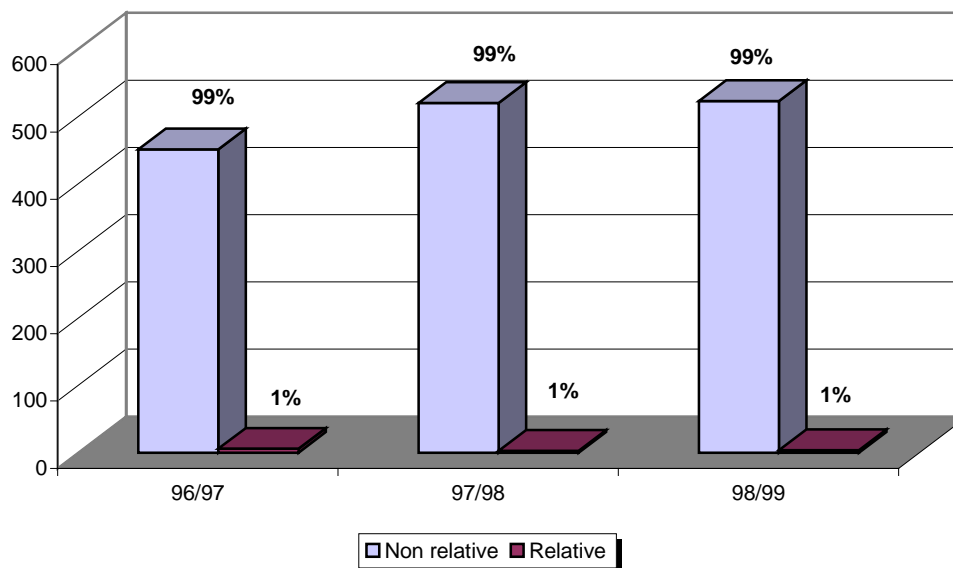


Kin (Relative) Adoptions in Public Agency Adoptions



- . Kin adoptions play an important role in public agency adoptions.
- . Kin adoptions in the public agency program are in an upward trend.

Kin Adoptions In Private Agency Adoptions



CHARACTERISTICS OF THE AGENCY ADOPTION PROGRAM

CHILDREN:

| | PUBLIC | | |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 1996/97 | 1997/98 | 1998/99 |
| Ethnicity: | | | |
| White | 1070 | 1515 | 2057 |
| Hispanic | 805 | 1206 | 1762 |
| African American | 484 | 777 | 1039 |
| Others | 191 | 298 | 430 |
| Total | 2551 | 3796 | 5288 |
| Age: | | | |
| 0-12 Months | 69 | 113 | 121 |
| 1-2 Years | 625 | 781 | 1280 |
| 3-5 Years | 1016 | 1563 | 2022 |
| 6-10 Years | 671 | 1053 | 1403 |
| 11-18 years | 170 | 286 | 462 |
| | 2551 | 3796 | 5288 |
| Gender: | | | |
| Male | 1305 | 1898 | 2615 |
| Female | 1246 | 1898 | 2673 |
| | 2551 | 3796 | 5288 |
| Non-Siblings: | 1675 | 2339 | 2114 |
| Siblings: | 876 | 1441 | 3174 |
| | 2551 | 3780 | 5288 |
| Kin Adoptions: | | | |
| Non-Kin | 1726 | 2531 | 3320 |
| Kin | 825 | 1265 | 1968 |
| | 2551 | 3796 | 5288 |

| | PRIVATE | | |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 1996/97 | 1997/98 | 1998/99 |
| Ethnicity: | | | |
| White | 278 | 312 | 285 |
| Hispanic | 105 | 105 | 145 |
| African American | 13 | 29 | 15 |
| Others | 61 | 77 | 82 |
| Total | 457 | 523 | 527 |

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE AGENCY ADOPTION PROGRAM

| | PRIVATE | | |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 1996/97 | 1997/98 | 1998/99 |
| Age: | | | |
| 0 thru 12 Mo | 337 | 406 | 401 |
| 1 Yr | 100 | 92 | 98 |
| 2-18 Yrs | 20 | 25 | 28 |
| | 457 | 523 | 527 |
| Gender: | | | |
| Male | 246 | 272 | 287 |
| Female | 211 | 251 | 240 |
| | 457 | 523 | 527 |
| Non-Siblings: | 433 | 497 | 527 |
| Siblings: | 24 | 26 | 25 |
| | 457 | 523 | 552 |
| Kin Adoptions: | | | |
| Non-Kin | 451 | 520 | 523 |
| Kin | 6 | 3 | 4 |
| | 457 | 523 | 527 |

ADOPTING PARENTS:

| | PUBLIC | | |
|-------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 1996/97 | 1997/98 | 1998/99 |
| Ethnicity: | | | |
| White | 1328 | 1943 | 2738 |
| Hispanic | 642 | 903 | 1322 |
| African American | 465 | 772 | 1002 |
| Others | 116 | 178 | 226 |
| Total | 2551 | 3796 | 5288 |

| | PRIVATE | | |
|------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 1996/97 | 1997/98 | 1998/99 |
| White | 380 | 445 | 439 |
| Hispanic | 48 | 40 | 60 |
| African American | 5 | 9 | 7 |
| Others | 24 | 29 | 21 |
| Total | 457 | 523 | 527 |

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE AGENCY ADOPTION PROGRAM

| | Public | | |
|--|---------|---------|---------|
| | 1996/97 | 1997/98 | 1998/99 |
| <u>Children Legally Free, Placement Not Identified:</u> | 507 | 688 | 1464 |
| <u>Children Legally Free, Placed & Awaiting Adoption Finalization:</u> | 3031 | 3819 | 4243 |
| <u>Children Whose Adoption Has Been Finalized:</u> | 3396 | 4061 | 5211 |
| | Private | | |
| | 1996/97 | 1997/98 | 1998/99 |
| <u>Children Legally Free, Placement Not Identified:</u> | 4 | 13 | 3 |
| <u>Children Legally Free, Placed & Awaiting Adoption Finalization:</u> | 468 | 500 | 471 |
| <u>Children Whose Adoption Has Been Finalized:</u> | 625 | 678 | 697 |

California's 0-18 Child Population for 1999

| | |
|------------------------|---------|
| <u>Ethnicity:</u> | |
| Hispanic | 4147642 |
| White | 3972306 |
| Asian Pacific Islander | 1092416 |
| African American | 738984 |
| American Indian | 53371 |